repair/renovation and damaged houses, transit accommodation, continuance of cash and rations relief, students' scholarship, employment in Government and financial assistance for self employment, financial assistance to agriculturists and horticultaurists and waiver of interest on loans.

Security to Tourists in J & K

†1262. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of terrorism has gone down in Jammu and Kashmir in the last two years;

(b) if so, the percentage of reduction therein;

(c) whether number of tourists to Kashmir has increased during last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether travel to Kashmir is safe for the tourists and the measures taken by Government for the security of the tourists coming to Kashmir and whether the security measures taken by Government have proved effective; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the report of the State government of Jammu and Kashmir, there was a 34.49% reduction in terrorism related incidents in the State in the year 2007 over 2006 while 35.16% reduction in 2008 over 2007.

(c) and (d) As per the available report, there were 4.37 lakh tourists in 2006, 4.39 lakh in 2007 and 4.66 lakh in 2008 who visited the State.

(e) and (f) The State Government and Security Forces, in an endeavour to make the security environment progressively safer for tourists, have taken the following steps:

(i) A separate tourist police and enforcement wing at Srinagar/Jammu and other tourist places exists, which looks after and protects the interests of the tourists in the State. The tourist police are empowered to take cognizance in cases of cheating and harassment.

(ii) Adequate deployment of Security Forces/State Police is being ensured around the tourist spots and also roads leading to such places.

(iii) Regular patrolling and anti-sabotage checks are being undertaken in and around tourist places and roads leading there.

Steps for Security of Coastal Areas in A.P.

1263. SHRIMATI T. RATNABAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.